



TOP BULL—The grand champion and senior champion bull at the recent '81 Expo in Rapid City, S.D., was KBLI Domino 907. Lone Star Herfords of Henrietta, Texas, and 7L Herfords of Ringling, Okla., are the owners of this 3/8/79 son of CH Domino 439. (Staff photo by Jay Purchase)

Pilot program proposal will approve meat, poultry labels

An official of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's food safety and inspection service told CNS recently he expects FSIS to propose making permanent a pilot program just concluded under which in-plant inspectors were temporarily empowered to approve final labels for meat and poultry products.

Under that pilot program the inspectors could approve such labels if a preliminary label was previously approved by FSIS' label review office in Washington. The inspectors were also authorized to approve simple labels, such as those for meat products containing only one ingredient.

Robert Hibbert, FSIS director of standards and labeling said that an FSIS task force has recommended that the program be made permanent. However, he said he did not know if his proposal would be made to initially implement the program nationwide or to phase in the program beginning with just a few of USDA's inspection regions.

Joan Schwing, Hibbert's assistant, said the task force determined that the pilot program cut down on the red tape facing the meat industry in label approvals. It also cut down on the work load of the Washington label approval office, allowing personnel there to devote more time to approve more complex labels, she said.

Schwing said the task force recommended that a permanent in-plant label approval program, if adopted,

should permit in-plant inspectors to approve minor changes on more complex product labels.

In comments sent to USDA on the pilot project, some meat packing firms had expressed concern that an in-plant label approval program, by authorizing more USDA personnel to approve labels, would increase the subjectivity of label review. However, Schwing said by carefully selecting the types of labels that in-plant inspectors would be authorized to approve, FSIS had minimized the potential problem of increased subjectivity.

Cattle — highest exposure to rabies, recent report shows

Skunks are the primary source of rabies virus in North Dakota. They pose the largest threat of exposure to our domestic livestock and pets. From June 1, 1980 to May 31, 1981, of 295 skunks examined in the state for rabies, 87% or 258 had the rabies virus. There were 285 confirmed rabies cases in North Dakota during that period in wild animals with three bats, three wolves, one raccoon and one badger accounting for the remaining rabies cases.

"It is interesting to note that out of 82 confirmed rabies cases in domestic animals, 56 were from cattle," said Kurt Wohlgemuth, extension veterinarian from North Dakota State University, Fargo. "This fact tells us two things. Cattle have a greater chance of being exposed to rabies than any other domestic animal and there is not a great incidence of rabies among dogs and cats as they are vaccinated far more consistently than any other domestic animal." Only seven dogs of 122 examined in the past year had rabies. Of 282 cats examined, only 13 had rabies.

"Animals, particularly farm animals such as dogs and cats, should be properly vaccinated against rabies. If you have a dog that has been properly vac-

cinated and immunized against rabies and this dog has encountered a skunk (more likely a rabid skunk) the best thing to do would be to get advice as to what to do from the veterinarian who has vaccinated the dog. Some veterinarians may like to booster that vaccine following exposure to rabies although it may be best at times to destroy that dog because even a vaccinated dog could, under certain rare conditions come down with the rabies virus," Wohlgemuth explained.

Livestock owners should protect themselves from being exposed to rabies. If a cow is affected by rabies it cannot swallow or drink milk of utmost importance that the livestock owner protect himself by not sticking his hand in the mouth of the cow. This practice should definitely be avoided to prevent unnecessary exposure to the rabies virus.

"Rabies appears to be a year-round problem in North Dakota," Wohlgemuth explained. "We have had a significant number of occurrences during the fall and winter, although there is a peak incidence during the spring and summer."

The first thing to do is to find out if the dog was properly vaccinated. "Suppose a non-vaccinated dog was known to have been exposed to a skunk which was probably rabid. I think if we are to be humane to that dog and more importantly protect ourselves, there may not be any other alternative but to destroy that dog. If a person doesn't want to kill a dog that wasn't vaccinated, the exposed dog should be confined, quarantined and observed for up to six months because the rabies virus can be incubated in the animal that long. There have been confirmed cases where an animal was bitten six months ago and only now exhibits signs of rabies."

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P.I. livestock expo entry deadline near



Comments

Plans are underway for this year's Pacific International Livestock Exposition in Portland, Ore. Over 125,000 visitors are expected to tour the Oct. 10-17 exposition where an estimated 3,000 head of livestock will be shown.

The P.I. will host special guest and Dallas Cowboy pro-football great, Walt Garrison; renowned culinary entertainer Merle Ellis "The Butcher"; the Great Northwest Chili Cook-off competition; a Lone Star Saloon with live country western music and dancing; and special religious services.

A Cattlemen's Day will be hosted by the P.I. and Oregon Cattlemen's Assn. President Dick Rathbun in honor of those attending the regional Cattlemen's Association meetings. Bill Swan, president of the National Cattlemen's Assn. will be a featured guest.

The most sweeping tax cut in history became law on Aug. 13 when President Reagan signed the legislation. Several of the changes brought about by the new law will affect agriculture.

Depreciation will be greatly accelerated: Light trucks and autos will be depreciated in three years, equipment and single purpose farm structures in five years, and buildings in 15 years. Options are provided if a longer depreciation schedule would be advantageous. A limited amount of personal property purchases can be written off in the year of purchase rather than depreciated. The investment tax credit has been adjusted to fit the new faster depreciation schedules: Items with a three-year life get a 6% credit, those with a five-year life or more get 10%.

Changes in estate and gift taxes include increases in the estate tax exemption which will reach \$800,000 by 1987, unlimited transfers by gift or inheritance to a spouse, the annual exclusion from gift tax is raised to \$10,000, and a reduction in the maximum estate tax rate is stepped from the current 70% to 50%.

Special agricultural use valuation for estates will include an increase in the allowable difference between fair market value and agricultural value to \$750,000 by 1983, up from the present \$500,000. Eligibility of property for the agricultural use valuation will be extended to cover situations where the land was farmed by a family member prior to the death of the owner.

The period in which IRS may recapture benefits if property is no longer used for agricultural purposes will be reduced from 15 to 10 years. And finally, imputed interest on sales of land between members of the same family will be limited to 7% if sales do not exceed \$500,000 in a calendar year.

That classification system, unveiled in May, is not yet firm free. It will be 1982 before significant tax breaks take effect—and sustained tight money may yet prove more harmful to ranching and feeding than it has seemed to so far. Nevertheless, the new tax laws could mean better management and improved efficiency for a sizable segment of the U.S. cattle industry.

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The cattle producer groups and related organizations in developing the proposal. She said she viewed beef grades as a marketing tool for cattlemen to "give them something to shoot for" and also as an aid to allowing them a reasonable return on their investment. However, Thyman said that grades should also serve as a buying tool for the consumer.

She said one of the reasons USDA had been able to act relatively quickly

WESTERN LIVESTOCK JOURNAL



News • Trends • Sales • Shows • Markets

August 31, 1981

Western Edition

Vol. 60, No. 44

Canadian cattle producers unite to limit U.S. imports

Imports of U.S. cattle into Ontario, Canada, have drastically increased this year and Canadian feedlot operators and cow/calf producers have united in an effort to limit the imports, according to Canadian cattle industry sources.

Reports CNS, from July 1 to Aug. 9 imports of U.S. slaughter cattle, primarily into Ontario, Canada's largest importer of U.S. cattle, have increased to 111,352 head from 18,401 last year, according to figures provided by Con-Fax, a cattle marketing analysis firm in Toronto.

"We saw that our cattle industry was going to get into a very desperate and grim situation," said Jim Harkness, feedlot operator and spokesman for the Ontario Cattlemen's Action Committee in Harrison, a splinter group of the Ontario Cattlemen's Assn. (OCA).

Harkness said the action committee is not only focusing on limiting imports, but is opting for a supply management system that includes various marketing and price control techniques.

The committee's main objection is that, until recently, U.S. slaughter cattle prices were comparable to Ontario's prices, Harkness said, and packers have been importing at a disadvantage.

Harkness said that 17.7% of the cattle slaughtered in Ontario during the first six months of 1980 were U.S. cattle. Whether it be cattle, automobiles or refrigerators, 17.7% of a product from the outside will disrupt any market, he said.

Some of the sources accused Canadian packers of market manipulation by importing higher priced U.S. cattle. By getting some cattle supplies, even at higher prices, from the U.S., they said, the packers can pressure Canadian cattle prices substantially lower.

As an example of the price advantage of importing U.S. cattle, Harkness said a Canadian packer who imports \$67 per cwt. U.S. steers to Canada, after duty taxes and shipping charges are added, has steers that are worth \$72.90 in the U.S. Canadian steers, excluding the duty taxes and shipping fees, are worth \$70.55 in the U.S.

Greame Hedley, manager of the Ontario Cattlemen's Assn., said OCA officials have been granted permission to study the ledgers of the large Toronto packing firm so they can get a better understanding of current packer buying practices.

Harkness said four corporate packing companies own 20% of the plants in Canada and are killing 50% of the cattle. The beef, he said, is sold to five major chain stores. He said no longer have a competitive bidding system," he said.

However, one Canadian packer said packers there would not import U.S. cattle unless it was profitable. The source, who is with one of Canada's largest packers, said, "We monitor the U.S. price situation closely as our own. Either U.S. cattle are cheaper or we don't bring them in."

He said that recently many packers in

(Continued on page 71)

USDA hopeful grading proposal will clear within dept. by Sept. 1

USDA is hopeful its new beef grading proposal can be cleared within the department as early as Sept. 1. CNS learned recently in an interview with the administrator of USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS).

AMS Administrator Mildred Thyman and members of the AMS staff present at the interview declined to disclose any details of the proposal. However, Thyman said USDA had considered the views of

cattle producer groups and related organizations in developing the proposal. She said she viewed beef grades as a marketing tool for cattlemen to "give them something to shoot for" and also as an aid to allowing them a reasonable return on their investment.

Responsibility for administering U.S. food quality grades was recently transferred from USDA's Food Safety and Quality Service, formerly the Food Safety and Quality Service, to the AMS.

Once the proposal has

(Continued on page 7)

Brucellosis classification:

Subcommittee calls for substantial changes

A U.S. Animal Health Assn. (USAHA) subcommittee has recommended substantial changes in the rules governing the brucellosis state classification system, a USDA official told CNS.

The period in which IRS may recapture benefits if property is no longer used for agricultural purposes will be reduced from 15 to 10 years. And finally, imputed interest on sales of land between members of the same family will be limited to 7% if sales do not exceed \$500,000 in a calendar year.

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AMS Administrator Mildred Thyman and members of the AMS staff present at the interview declined to disclose any details of the proposal. However, Thyman said USDA had considered the views of

implement any additional statewide regulations they might deem necessary to help eradicate the disease. He said USDA will refrain from taking an official position on the subcommittee recommendations until after hearing the views and information presented at the full committee meeting in October.

Johnson said if USDA saw the need for any modifications in its plan, it would work quickly to obtain public comment on the modifications so the new plan could still go into effect Jan. 1.

Under that plan "A" states would be those states free of brucellosis, and "B" states would be those to

NEWSPAPER (priority handling)

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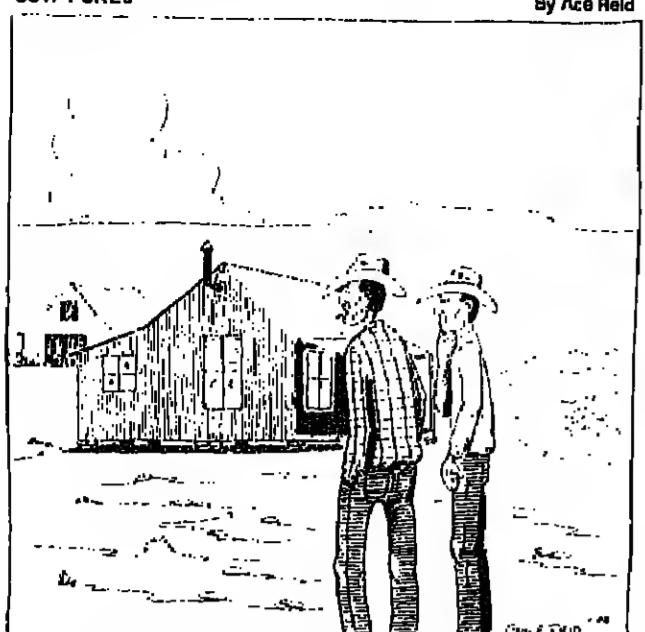
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10 Bred Heifers to calve in January
— Also carrying the service of registered Brahman bulls

10 Open Heifers



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An example of a Brahman-Devon mating.

You are invited...

To a cattle breeding program at 10 a.m. The program will discuss the use of Brahman and Devon genetics in an F-1 program. There will be cattle on display providing you an opportunity to observe the results of this breeding program.

A barbecue beef lunch will be served at 11:30 followed by the sale of 1 p.m. Make sure you attend this first of its kind event.

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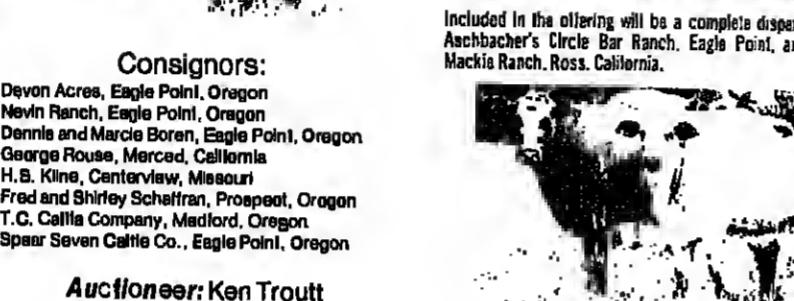
60 Females

30 Pairs, 20 of which are bred back to registered Brahman bulls

10 Bred Cows — Spring calves

10 Bred Heifers to calve in January
— Also carrying the service of registered Brahman bulls

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Fred and Shirley Scheffren, Prospect, Oregon
T.C. Cattle Company, Medford, Oregon
Spear Seven Cattle Co., Eagle Point, Oregon

Auctioneer: Ken Troutt



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You are invited...

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A barbecue beef lunch will be served at 11:30 followed by the sale of 1 p.m. Make sure you attend this first of its kind event.

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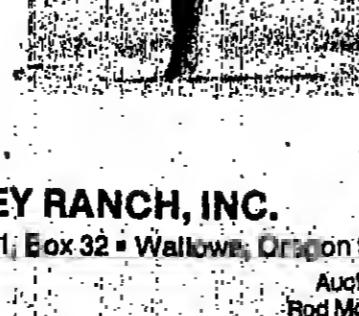
15
Quarter Horses

6
Ranch-Broke Geldings,
2-9 years old

4
Yearling Stallions

3
Yearling Fillies

1
Mare and Foal



Livestock assns. file suit to halt MX preliminary plan

The Nevada Cattlemen's Assn. today filed suit to put an immediate halt to preliminary MX planning activities of the Air Force in Nevada and Utah. In a complaint filed in the United States District Court in Salt Lake City, the Nevada cattlemen joined in the suit by the Utah Cattlemen's Assn. and the Wool Growers Assn. of Nevada and Utah, charged Secretary of Interior James G. Watt and Director Robert F. Burford of the Bureau of Land Management with acting without legal authority when they executed a

cooperative agreement with the Air Force on May 16, 1981. The agreement authorized the Air Force to conduct various tests on the public lands in the Great Basin in preparation for the selection of deployment sites for the 200 MX missiles and 4600 shelters.

The complaint alleges that the drilling of wells, trenching, testing the ground with explosives, borings, digging of test pits, cone penetration tests and the use of off-road vehicles will destroy the fragile native desert vegetation and cause the spread of the

deadly weed halogoton throughout the Great Basin, posing a clear and present danger to cattle and sheep.

It also charges that the Interior Department failed to hold public hearings before signing the cooperative agreement with the Air Force and, in so doing, violated the constitutional rights of cattle ranchers and sheep ranchers to due process of law.

Finally, it is alleged that the numerous activities of the Air Force, authorized by the Interior Department, constitute a major federal

action having serious impacts on the environment and that a programmatic environmental impact statement must be prepared and filed.

In announcing the first of a series of legal challenges to the proposed MX deployment in the Great Basin, E.E. Eyre, president of the Nevada Cattlemen's Assn., charged that the spread of halogoton, "poses a clear, direct and deadly threat to the continued economic viability of the livestock industries in the two states. Everywhere the Air Force and its contractors

have been, we are beginning to see the spread of this poison weed."

The cattlemen of Nevada have been planning their legal assault for the past nine months and have been attempting to raise funds for what is expected to be a long, drawn-out battle in the courts. The next stage of the litigation is expected to take place when the Air Force files its final environmental impact statement.

If the decision is made to proceed with deployment in Nevada, the hearings will be held by the state engineer and are expected to last several months. After the state engineer decides if and how much water the Air Force will be allowed to draw from the ground, the losing side is expected to appeal to the courts. The resolution of the battle over Nevada's water is expected to extend at least another two years.

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the working kind. We will sell all or part of the above 100 cows.
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</div

National Food Safety Meeting

A national seminar on participation by the United States in the Codex Alimentarius Commission will be held Sept. 15 and 16 at the USDA headquarters building in Washington, D.C.

The Codex commission works to develop international food standards that will promote worldwide food safety and international trade in food products, according to Eddie F. Kimball, associate deputy administrator of USDA's Agriculture Marketing Service. According to Kimball, the purpose of the meeting is to assess the past and future role of the U.S. in the commission.

National Golden Spur Award

The National Golden Spur Award weekend Sept. 18-19 in Lubbock, Texas, is expected to draw more than 3,000 visitors to the main events—a Livestock and Money Symposium, the National Golden Spur Award and Prairie Party and Ranch Day.

The 1981 events also will include a private collector's show of Western art, an afternoon for Junior Wranglers, and food Western-style—including a cowboy breakfast—by Texas' famous Perini Ranch Catering.

Tickets for the National Golden Spur Award and Prairie Party, for the Livestock and Money Symposium and for a cowboy breakfast on Ranch Day may be obtained from the Ranching Heritage Assn. To inquire or purchase tickets write: National Golden Spur Award, Ranching Heritage Assn., P.O. Box 4498, Lubbock, Texas 79421.

For additional information, please contact: Gene Kuykendall, BBU, GPM S. Tower, Suite 350, 800 N.W. Loop 101, San Antonio, Texas 78216, phone 512/341-1277; John Arcularius, Rt. 2, Box 25A, Bishop, Calif. 93514, phone 714/387-2715; and Howard Arcularius, phone 714/387-2473.

Beefmaster Breeders Universal

"Crossbreeding With Beefmasters," a Beefmaster Breeders Universal special event, will be held Sept. 15, at Wayne Hage's Pine Creek Ranch in Tonopah, Nev. The field day, the first of its kind in the West, is planned to acquaint commercial cattlemen with the advantages of Beefmaster cattle.

For additional information, please contact: Gene Kuykendall, BBU, GPM S. Tower, Suite 350, 800 N.W. Loop 101, San Antonio, Texas 78216, phone 512/341-1277; John Arcularius, Rt. 2, Box 25A, Bishop, Calif. 93514, phone 714/387-2715; and Howard Arcularius, phone 714/387-2473.

American Hereford Assn.

Hereford breeders of the West invite you to take a fall break, visit some of the top herds in the Old West Country, become involved in the celebration of the American Hereford Assn.'s 100th year and plan to caravan through Montana, Wyoming and South Dakota for the Old West Centennial Tour, Sept. 14-18.

Reservations can be made through Jack Barkley, tour chairman, Box 1285, Gillette, Wyo. 82716. Phone 307/682-3039 or 688-4962.

Animal Air Transportation Assn.

The Animal Air Transportation Assn. Inc. (AATA), will hold its Seventh International Conference at Madison, Wis., Sept. 28-Oct. 2 in conjunction with World Dairy Expo, the largest international dairy trade show in North America.

For further information contact: Virgil Bachtel, program chairman 309/888-8533 or Dale Anderson, arrangements 301/292-1970 or write AATA, Box 55500, Ft. Washington, Md. 20744.

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Cowden Educational Fund

The Cowden Educational Fund, designed to perpetuate the ideals and goals of E. Ray Cowden, has been established at John C. Lincoln Hospital by an initial contribution from Valley National Bank, Phoenix, Ariz. Cowden, who recently celebrated his 90th birthday, is a long-time Arizona citizen and participant in civic affairs.

Lamb Marketing Workshop

Sheep producers from California, Oregon, Washington, Arizona, and Nevada will meet Sept. 15-17 in Sacramento, Calif., to discuss marketing problems, trends, and opportunities in their industry. Further information about the Western Lamb Marketing Workshop can be obtained by contacting the California Wool Growers' Assn. 916/482-0680, California Farm Bureau Federation 916/924-1090, or University of California Cooperative Extension 916/752-1278.

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**U.S. leads in potential
to increase agriculture**

U.S. potential to increase farm production and exports surpasses that of all other agricultural exporting countries, an agricultural economist said recently, reports CNS.

John Mitchell, an agricultural economist from Michigan State University, said export competition will remain strong, but U.S. competitors will not increase exports enough during the next five years to displace a large amount of U.S. grain.

He said wheat prices will recover in 1982-83 to \$4.12 per bushel, average farm price, from a projected \$3.58 per bushel in 1981-82.

By 1986, on-farm wheat prices will average \$5.52 per bushel.

Soybean prices will escalate rapidly beginning in 1983-84, and by 1986 the average on-farm price will reach \$10.43 per bushel.

U.S. soybean exports by 1986 will reach 35.5 million tons, but South American soybean exports will remain fairly stable in the next five years. He projected 1981-82 U.S. soybean exports at 30.5 million tons.

Mitchell cautioned the audience about China's unknown market potential. Dramatic changes in China's buying habits rather than food grains that began in the 1970s will continue into the 1980s, he said.

Red Meat exports; higher next year

Nicaragua's 1982 red meat exports are expected to be down from 1980 levels of 23.53 million tons because of lower export prices and reduced production. But as economic conditions improve and slaughter increases, red meat exports will show an increase in 1982, the attaché said.

The attaché said in a recent report that red meat

exports in 1981 were

expected to be down from 1980 levels of 23.53 million tons because of lower export prices and reduced production. But as economic conditions improve and slaughter increases, red meat exports will show an increase in 1982, the attaché said.

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Truck owner-operators debate on extortion control at loading docks

Warehousemen, truck owner-operators and others presented widely differing views of the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) on the extent to which perishable commodity haulers encounter extortion at loading docks, reports CNS.

The ICC received these statements in response to a June request for public comments to use in compiling a study assessing the success of the Motor Carrier Act of 1980 in deterring illegal "lumping."

Lumping is a practice under which truckers are forced to pay fees at docks for the privilege of loading or off-loading their trucks or to have other do so. The 1980 act makes it illegal for anyone to coerce a driver either to load or unload a vehicle or to be coerced to pay someone else to perform that service.

The American Farm Bureau Federation, several truck owner-operators, The American Frozen Food Institute, the National Potato Council and Smith and Solomon Trucking Co. all said the 1980 law has had little, if any, success in deterring lumping.

Clay Hyder Trucking Lines Inc., and Commercial Carrier Corp. told the ICC that the anti-lumping provisions of the act had been partially successful in curbing loading and unloading abuses. Lumping is not as prevalent as it was before

passage of the motor carrier act and lumper charges are not as high as they were before the measure was adopted, the two firms said.

The Frozen Food Institute said lumping is particularly prevalent in the San Francisco Bay area, Los Angeles and in the northeastern U.S., particularly in New York City. Comments submitted on behalf of several owner-operators cited problems with lumpers at meat packing establishments, wholesale groceries, food manufacturing firms and produce markets. The owner-operators also named New Jersey, Boston and Cleveland as areas where they encountered illegal lumpers.

The Fnm Bureau Federation said truckers delivering perishable commodities to a receiver's docks often are required to pay lumpers between \$50 and \$100 for the privilege of unloading their vehicles promptly. In many cases, owner-operators are forced to do business with lumpers in early morning hours outside the gates of a receiver's unloading docks or face hours of delay in unloading if they refuse to pay the lumpers.

The federation said it was certain that if the ICC investigated the pervasiveness of lumping, the ICC would recommend legislation requiring shippers to

load and receivers to unload unregulated trucks hauling meat and poultry. The federation had lobbied for inclusion of such a provision.

Currently, truckers of perishable commodities generally are responsible for loading and unloading their trucks unless otherwise specified in the contract.

A law firm representing an unidentified group of carriers, owner-operators and drivers said its clients thought a shipper-load, receiver-unload rule generally would be a good idea.

However, the National Candy Wholesalers Assn., Four Meat Packing Firms, the Eastern Industrial Traffic League Inc., the Retail Bakers of America, the International Assn. of Refrigerated Warehousemen and Hunt-Wesson Foods objected strenuously to any regulations that would require shippers to load and receivers to unload trucks transporting perishable commodities could be cured by more vigorous enforcement of current law.

CORRECTION: In last week's article "Demand for ungraded steers: registrars bring big sales," paragraph three should have read: "Safeway does sell ungraded beef in all its divisions with the exception of the Dallas and Seattle markets."

Other sources said because of the current poor demand for beef at the consumer level, packers have practically vacated the U.S. market during the last few weeks and imports have been limited. Feedlot sources in the Northeast Corn Belt confirmed that recent Canadian interest in U.S. cattle has been limited.

Canadian packers will only re-enter the U.S. market when they can figure a profit, which may be later this year, said Ross Carroll, a market analyst with Con-Fax.

Hedley of the OCA said that because many feedlots are declaring bankruptcy and there is some unrest in the industry, supply management advocates are increasing.

"Part of supply management is controlling imports of U.S. cattle, but politically, we just can't close the border," he said.

Other sources agreed and said Canada cannot restrict imports of cattle because it

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Beef exports to continue decline

Australia's 1981 and 1982 beef and veal exports will continue to decline from 1980 levels, the U.S. agricultural attaché in Canberra said.

Weak prices and unfavorable weather conditions caused Australian cattle producers to liquidate herds, and herd rebuilding is at a slower pace than expected, the attaché said.

Exports to the U.S. in 1981 are forecast at 275,000 tons, compared with 558,748 tons in 1980, the attaché said. The attaché said beef and veal exports to the U.S. in 1982 are forecast at 278,000 tons.

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NEW POSITION—Tracy Holbert, College Station, Texas, has been hired as director of field services for the International Brangus Breeders Assn. (IBBA). Holbert's responsibilities as director of field services will include supervision of foreign marketing and the Brangus Herd Improvement Record program, assisting in organization of field days, seminars, and educational events, new breeder communication and beef promotion.

Prize lists here

The 1981 Canadian Western Agribition Prize Lists are now available. The prize list has been mailed to past exhibitors, and is available upon request from the Canadian Western Agribition office in Regina, Saskatchewan.

Canadian Western Agribition will be held in Regina, Nov. 28-Dec. 4, 1981.

For further information, contact: Maxine Ponsford, entry supervisor, Canadian Western Agribition, Box 3535, Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 3J8, 306/565-0565.

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Canadian cattle producers unite to limit U.S. imports

(Continued from page 1)

Ontario have reduced kills to 75% of their normal capacity and one large packer closed operations for two weeks. The reason, he said, was poor profit margins and difficulty moving beef because of poor demand.

The packer source said some major chain stores reduced beef prices \$0.20 to \$0.30 per lb. two weeks ago to stimulate consumer buying of beef. Consequently, the source said, demand has improved and dressed beef prices have been slightly supported.

Other sources said because of the current poor demand for beef at the consumer level, packers have practically vacated the U.S. market during the last few weeks and imports have been limited. Feedlot sources in the Northeast Corn Belt confirmed that recent Canadian interest in U.S. cattle has been limited.

Carroll said the Canadian feedlot industry is not current and there are many cattle ready for market. Therefore, slaughter cattle prices will be depressed during the next few weeks, he said.

He said many cow/calf producers are liquidating their herds in view of the poor demand for beef and the sluggish economy.

"Breeders will begin to pressure many feedlot operators and cow/calf producers to liquidate," he said.

Canadian feeder and stocker cattle prices, Carroll said, will be pressured this fall because of increased supplies, and "it will be a buyers' market."

Other sources said feedlot operators will be extremely selective when buying feeder cattle this fall and ranchers will stand to lose money on feeder cattle.

Other sources agreed and said Canada cannot restrict imports of cattle because it

would offset the trade balance. Canadian cow/calf producers export many feeder cattle to the U.S. each year, the sources said.

Hedley said the imports of U.S. cattle have been large before but the industry has always been able to regain its footing. What makes Canada's cattle industry situation so critical now, he said, is that most of the feedlots are on small land bases and the operators cannot survive under the current economic strains.

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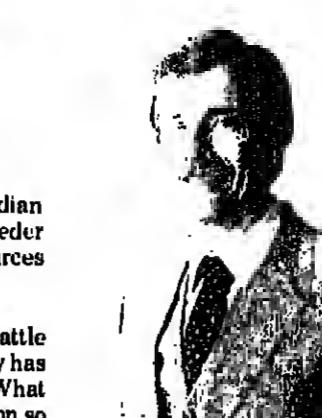
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"Breeders will begin to pressure many feedlot operators and cow/calf producers to liquidate," he said.



ASSISTANT—Dr. Barney L. Cosner, 29, has been named administrative assistant at the National Western Stock Show. For the past year Cosner was assistant professor in the Agricultural Education Dept. at Iowa State University in Ames.

Intensive farming; risk to feed world

Intensive farming, a potential cause of excessive soil erosion according to a recent USDA study, is a risk the U.S. needs to take to feed the world, U.S. Agriculture Secretary John Block said recently.

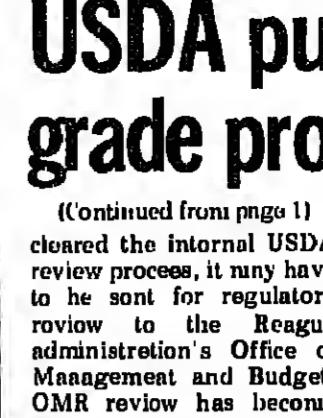
"We not only owe to our own country, to our own economy, to our own people, we owe it to people around the world who buy our food products, and want to buy our food products," Block told CNS in an interview.

Canadian feeder and stocker cattle prices, Carroll said, will be pressured this fall because of increased supplies, and "it will be a buyers' market."

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U.S. Loan." Trade organizations representing both buyers and sellers of high-quality beef for the Hotel and Restaurant Trade generally have opposed changes in grade standards. These groups have said that the inclusion of leaner beef in the choice grade would make beef grades a less valuable barometer of actual beef quality.

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Feeder Cattle Contract Auctions

"Super chickens" could lay more than 1 egg every day

It may be possible to develop "super chickens" which lay more than one egg per day.

Recent experiments have shown that a chicken can have two functional reproductive tracts, according to

Bernard C. Wentworth, University of Wisconsin-Madison poultry scientist and reproductive physiologist.

Wentworth doesn't know whether chickens with double oviducts will double chickens' egg-laying ability. He also stresses that it will be some time before researchers develop any "super chickens" for henhouses.

Nevertheless, Wentworth's experiments with a rare line of Rhode Island Red chickens that have two oviducts has opened up new possibilities for researchers.

Chickens with double reproductive tracts could significantly cut production costs in the very competitive poultry industry.

Although each of the chicks had two oviducts, each had only one ovary. Wentworth surgically transplanted a piece of the ovary from one side to the other or moved the ovary to the center of both oviducts.

Usually, only a chicken's left oviduct and ovary matures to reproductive capacity. The one on the right side degenerates before chickens mature.

Shifting the location of

the ovary or transplanting a piece of the ovary enabled chickens to produce fertile eggs from both oviducts.

Wentworth says that the surgical techniques are experimental and not feasible on a commercial scale. However, it may be possible to breed chickens with two oviducts to a line of chickens with two ovaries.

Such chickens would probably require more frequent roosting periods between periods of production than currently used for flocks of laying hens.

Although scientists have not discovered any chickens with two ovaries, they haven't looked for birds of this type until now. Wentworth has alerted other scientists to look for chickens with double ovaries and he feels there's a good chance such a chicken will be found.

It may also be possible to keep the right ovary functioning with hormone treatments. The strain has a functional right ovary which in the strain regresses as birds mature.

Some research has shown that ovulation is blocked if there is an egg in the reproductive tract. Wentworth feels that a bird with two reproductive tracts may not be affected by the blocking mechanism and may start to reproduce an egg in one tract while an egg develops in the other tract.

Only 15% of the trunks

located ovaries became established on the right side while all of the ovaries pulled through to the mid-line remained close to the right oviduct.

Surgery required to pull the ovary to the mid-line membrane was less complicated than moving a piece of the ovary to the other side, Wentworth notes.

Artificial insemination in a control group of the chickens showed that few sperm crossed over to the right oviduct where the two oviducts joined.

Wentworth then used semen with different genetic markers to inseminate the right and left reproductive tracts of the surgically altered hens. Fertile eggs produced in different tracts would result in chicks that were visibly different.

The surgically altered chickens produced some fertile eggs from both reproductive tracts, and indication that both reproductive tracts were functional and that a single ovary could supply eggs to both tracts.

Wentworth notes that egg production from the left tract was good. Egg production from the right tract was considerably lower. He also says the strain studied is not noted for high egg production.

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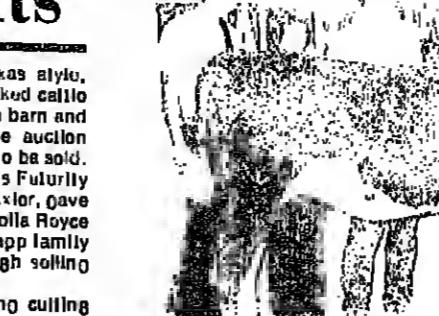
Tops: Miss Two O Two, 18 year old sorrel mare by Two G Two; Rapp's Quarter Horse Ranch, Nap., \$105,000. Queen Lee Son, 15 year old bay mare by Leo San; (Guest consignor) George Texelco, Santa Ynez, to Allen Funt, Hollywood, \$100,000. Pistol's Holly, 18 year old dun mare by Hollywood Pfeil, Rapp's Quarter Horse Ranch, \$90,000. Mr. Royal Mahogany, weanling arterial colt by Goc's Mohogany; Dr. Kuykendall, Pickerington, Ohio, \$80,000. Smoking Holly, 2 year old bay filly by One Gun; Big G Products, Nepe, \$35,000. Poco Rojo Char, 8 year old chestnut mare by King Fritz; (Guest consignor) Glick and Odie Holm, Santa Rose, to Hillbilly Ranch, Loomis, \$30,000. Gecas Rock, 2 year old gray colt by Goc's Mahogany; Bradford H. Miller, Trabuco Canyon, \$30,000. Smokey Takin, 2 year old bay filly by Dry Doc; (Guest consignor) N.P. Musselman, Gilroy, to Frank Monaco and E. Murphy, Cleman, \$20,500. Miss Blondie Bar, 20 year old sorrel mare by One Bar; Bill Freeman, Chicago, Ill., \$24,000. Ocas King Gold, 2 year old bay filly by Goc's Mahogany; C. John Stringer, Ontario, Ont., \$22,500. Birda Prescription, 2 year old sorrel filly by Goc's Prescription; Old G Products, \$18,750. Miss Royalwood, 14 year old dun mare by Royal King; (Guest consignor) Paul Mandenhead, Alpine, Utah, to Clarence Minelli, Guadalupe, \$17,000. Mr. Grey, 1 year old bay colt by Dry Doc; Lothen and Rod Skellon, Anza, \$18,500. Juro's Red Ridge, 12 year old sorrel mare by Poco Red Ant; Rapp's Quarter Horse Ranch, \$15,000. Rane Command, 10 year old bay mare by First Command; Finn and Pritchett, Red Bluff, \$15,000. Smoke N Snap, 1 year old sorrel filly by Mr. Gunsmoke; (Guest consignor) Oliva Stephan and Phil Ornes, Scottsdale, Ariz., to Paul Ornes, Wichita Falls, Texas, \$15,000. Miss Pipa Sinker, 1 year old sorrel filly by Mr. Gunsmoke; (Guest consignor) Raindrop Farm, Calistoga, to John Bittner, \$15,000.

This was a million dollar sale... \$1,055,700 ... of cutting

tents of the surgically altered hens. Fertile eggs produced in different tracts would result in chicks that were visibly different.

The surgically altered chickens produced some fertile eggs from both reproductive tracts, and indication that both reproductive tracts were functional and that a single ovary could supply eggs to both tracts.

Wentworth notes that egg production from the left tract was good. Egg production from the right tract was considerably lower. He also says the strain studied is not noted for high egg production.



USDA arranges for policy, council

USDA soon will set up "working groups" to seek grass-roots inputs before making agricultural policy decisions, Secretary of Agriculture John R. Block said recently.

Block said the working groups form the basic unit of a new policy and coordinating council—crossing USDA agency lines—which will meet on an "as needed" basis to review policies and resolve issues.

"An important key to the success of the council rests with state and local groups," Block said. "Effective and timely action from the local level on up is needed if we in Washington are to implement policies and programs that meet the needs of America's farmers, ranchers and other rural residents."

In a background paper issued recently, the Commission outlined the proposal; it will submit to the Council of Agriculture Ministers. The paper did not say which countries the EEC was likely to approach about long-term agreements, but sources mentioned Egypt, Algeria and Morocco.

As defined by the Commission, the agreements should be simple and flexible, of three- to five-year duration, and should include price conditions and safeguard clauses. Products and quantities to be sold would be determined on an annual basis, the Commission said. Export credit might be offered by individual members until the EEC forms a unified export credit system.

The Commission proposal was careful to emphasize that long-term commitments should neither artificially induce increased agricultural production nor add to the EEC's budget expenditures.

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Market Roundup:

Market continues uneven balloon ride

DEMAND AND TRADE FOR fed cattle followed a rather uneven pattern, continuing unsatisfactory and mostly lower. Wholesale beef trade coupled with a heavy federal inspection slaughter rate were major factors causing uncertainty in live cattle trading. Demand continues best for choice 700-900 lb. and 550-700 lb. carcasses respectively. Price declines on choice heifer carcasses under 550 lb. were finding only narrow outlets and limited demand.

The quality of steers and heifers changed little over the last few weeks, with large percentages of good grades showing up at slaughter. Feeder buyers remain in competition with packer buyers at major terminals when purchasing consignments of good to low-choice cattle to return to feedyards for further feeding.

Slaughter prices last week were also unstable. Omaha closed steady to 25 cents higher on steers and 50 cents lower on heifers. Sioux Falls and Sioux City were steady to \$1 lower with most of the decline on heifers. The Central Plains closed steady to 50 cents higher while direct marketing areas westward finished steady to \$1.50 higher, with most of the advance on steers in California, however, Idaho and the Northwest markets closed steady to 50 cents lower on steers and heifers.

OKLAHOMA CITY STEERS MD. frame #1 400-500 lb. \$71.50-74; 500-600 lb. \$66-70; 600-700 lb. \$88-87.40; 700-800 lb. \$84.70-77.00; 800-900 lb. \$64.70-65.40. Heifers md. frame #1 450-550 lb. \$68-84; 550-760 lb. \$59-62. Amerillo steers md. frame #1 300-400 lb. \$74.50-80; 400-500 lb. \$89.73-75; 500-600 lb. \$86-67.50; 600-800 lb. \$64.68-50; 800-900 lb. \$62.50-64.75. Heifers md. frame #1 300-400 lb. \$64.68-50; 400-500 lb. \$59.50-64; 500-800 lb. \$57.59-60; 600-700 lb. \$56-58.75; 700-800 lb. \$56-58. Dodge City steers md. frame #1 600-700 lb. \$66-67.75; 700-800 lb. \$65.60-68.80; 800-900 lb. \$64.25-65.50. Heifers md. frame #1 500-600 lb. \$58-61.50; 600-700 lb. \$61.20-62.30.

COLORADO STEERS MD. frame #1 245-270 lb. \$70.50-72; 275-475 lb. \$87.75-72.50; 550-700 lb. \$80.50-70; 725-875 lb. \$63.50-66.50; 850-950 lb. \$62.75-65.35. Heifers md. frame #1 300-450 lb. \$50-55; 525-750 lb. \$57.50-62.40; 775-900 lb. \$59.10-61.10. Wyoming, western Nebraska and southwestern South Dakota steers md. frame #1 550-700 lb. \$65.75-80.75; 700-800 lb. \$64.50-66.25; 800-900 lb. \$63-64.25; 900-1065 lb. \$62-64. Heifers md. frame #1 475-600 lb. \$69-60.75; 600-600 lb. \$69-62.50; 800-900 lb. \$59.50-61.10. Montana steers md. frame #1 500-570 lb. \$63-65; 600-650 lb. \$55-65.50; 800-850 lb. \$61.50-62. Heifers md. frame #1 450-550 lb. \$53-58; 700-800 lb. \$55-56. California steers md. frame #1 475 lb. \$64; \$55-65. Heifers md. frame #1 425-650 lb. \$65-75; 675-750 lb. \$55-56. Washington, Oregon, Idaho steers md. frame #1 300-400 lb. \$66-70; 500-700 lb. \$61-64.75; 700-900 lb. \$60-62.50; 800-825 lb. \$64.75-65.50; 1000-1200 lb. \$65-66.75; 1200-1400 lb. \$65-67.50. Heifers md. frame #1 300-400 lb. \$56-62; 400-700 lb. \$54-56.

ARIZONA SLAUGHTER STEERS mixed good and choice 2-3 1025-1050 lb. \$68-68; 1125 lb. \$70; good with end choice 2-3 960-1075 lb. \$68-69; 1150-1175 lb. \$68; mostly good 2-3 850-1100 lb. \$67-68; 1225 lb. \$65; Holsteins \$64. Heifers good with end choice 2-3 650-950 lb. \$64-64.50; mostly good 2-6 1050 lb. heifers \$68. New Mexico slaughter steers mostly choice 1000-1125 lb. 2-4 867; mixed good and choice 850-1125 lb. \$64.25-66.50; mostly good 700-725 lb. \$63.50; 600 lb. \$64.50. Idaho slaughter steers good to mostly choice 2-3 1025-1200 lb. \$66-68.50; Holsteins \$57.50. Heifers good to mostly choice 2-3 900-1050 lb. \$62.50-63.50. Western Kansas slaughter steers choice 2-4 1025-1175 lb. \$66.25-67.50; choices with end good 1000-1175 lb. \$65-66.50; mixed good and choice \$64.50; Holsteins \$60-61.25. Heifers choice 2-4 930-1025 lb. \$63.50-64.75; choice with end good \$63-64.50; mixed commercial to choice including heifers \$58-60.

UTAH SLAUGHTER STEERS good to mostly choice 2-3 1000-1200 lb. \$64-66; Holsteins \$68-61. Heifers good to mostly choice 2-3 650-1000 lb. \$62-63; mixed good and choice 900 lb. \$61. Texas, western Oklahoma slaughter steers good to mostly choice 2-3 1025-1175 lb. \$67-67.50; mixed good and choice 2-3 1000-1225 lb. \$64-66.75; Holsteins \$61-63. Heifers choice 2-3 925-1025 lb. \$64-64.50; mixed good and choice 2-3 850-1050 lb. including heifers \$62.50-63.75; 2-4 1000 lb. heifers \$60. Colorado slaughter steers choice 2-3 1150 lb. \$67.25; choice 2-3 1100 lb. \$67.25; good to mostly choice 1050-1150 lb. \$64.50-66.50; 1100-1200 lb. \$66.50-67.75; 1050-1075 lb. \$64.50-65.50; Holsteins \$61. Heifers mostly choice 2-3 650-1025 lb. \$64.25-66.50; good to mostly choice 925-1025 lb. \$62.75-64.50; good and commercial 1025 lb. \$61.50.

WASHINGTON, OREGON SLAUGHTER STEERS good to mostly choice 2-3 975-1300 lb. \$66-68.50; Holsteins \$61-62.50. Heifers good to mostly choice 2-3 875-1100 lb. \$68-64. San Angelo slaughter lambie choice and prime 90-120 lb. with 1-2 pelt \$65-57; 108-116 lb. \$68-69. Ewes, good 820-221, few, woolled \$23; utility 17-20 cul and utility 15-17. Feeder spring lambie choice and fancy 46-76 lb. \$64-66.50; 76-86 lb. \$62-65.10. Sioux Falls feeder pigs U.S. 2-20-30 lb. \$21-31; 30-40 lb. \$24-34; 40-48 lb. \$29-44.50; 50-60 lb. \$30-47.50; 60-80 lb. \$34-45.50; 90-120 lb. \$36-50-60.

ALEX MOSTROUS

WESTERN AUCTION ROUNDUP

[Reports as quoted by market]

STOCKTON LIVESTOCK MARKET

Stockton, Calif., Aug. 24

2,088 head received: Feeder calves, md. Ireme 1 300-400 lb. \$83-85.50; 400-500 lb. \$82-85.50; 500-600 lb. \$82-84.50; 600-750 lb. \$84-85.25; 700-800 lb. \$80-80.50; 800-950 lb. \$85-82.50; 950-1050 lb. \$87-85.50; 1050-1150 lb. \$88-86.50; 1150-1250 lb. \$89-87.50; 1250-1350 lb. \$90-88.50; 1350-1450 lb. \$91-89.50; 1450-1550 lb. \$92-87.50; 1550-1650 lb. \$93-86.50; 1650-1750 lb. \$94-85.50; 1750-1850 lb. \$95-84.50; 1850-1950 lb. \$96-83.50; 1950-2050 lb. \$97-82.50; 2050-2150 lb. \$98-81.50; 2150-2250 lb. \$99-80.50; 2250-2350 lb. \$100-79.50; 2350-2450 lb. \$101-78.50; 2450-2550 lb. \$102-77.50; 2550-2650 lb. \$103-76.50; 2650-2750 lb. \$104-75.50; 2750-2850 lb. \$105-74.50; 2850-2950 lb. \$106-73.50; 2950-3050 lb. \$107-72.50; 3050-3150 lb. \$108-71.50; 3150-3250 lb. \$109-70.50; 3250-3350 lb. \$110-69.50; 3350-3450 lb. \$111-68.50; 3450-3550 lb. \$112-67.50; 3550-3650 lb. \$113-66.50; 3650-3750 lb. \$114-65.50; 3750-3850 lb. \$115-64.50; 3850-3950 lb. \$116-63.50; 3950-4050 lb. \$117-62.50; 4050-4150 lb. \$118-61.50; 4150-4250 lb. \$119-60.50; 4250-4350 lb. \$120-59.50; 4350-4450 lb. \$121-58.50; 4450-4550 lb. \$122-57.50; 4550-4650 lb. \$123-56.50; 4650-4750 lb. \$124-55.50; 4750-4850 lb. \$125-54.50; 4850-4950 lb. \$126-53.50; 4950-5050 lb. \$127-52.50; 5050-5150 lb. \$128-51.50; 5150-5250 lb. \$129-50.50; 5250-5350 lb. \$130-49.50; 5350-5450 lb. \$131-48.50; 5450-5550 lb. \$132-47.50; 5550-5650 lb. \$133-46.50; 5650-5750 lb. \$134-45.50; 5750-5850 lb. \$135-44.50; 5850-5950 lb. \$136-43.50; 5950-6050 lb. \$137-42.50; 6050-6150 lb. \$138-41.50; 6150-6250 lb. \$139-40.50; 6250-6350 lb. \$140-39.50; 6350-6450 lb. \$141-38.50; 6450-6550 lb. \$142-37.50; 6550-6650 lb. \$143-36.50; 6650-6750 lb. \$144-35.50; 6750-6850 lb. \$145-34.50; 6850-6950 lb. \$146-33.50; 6950-7050 lb. \$147-32.50; 7050-7150 lb. \$148-31.50; 7150-7250 lb. \$149-30.50; 7250-7350 lb. \$150-29.50; 7350-7450 lb. \$151-28.50; 7450-7550 lb. \$152-27.50; 7550-7650 lb. \$153-26.50; 7650-7750 lb. \$154-25.50; 7750-7850 lb. \$155-24.50; 7850-7950 lb. \$156-23.50; 7950-8050 lb. \$157-22.50; 8050-8150 lb. \$158-21.50; 8150-8250 lb. \$159-20.50; 8250-8350 lb. \$160-19.50; 8350-8450 lb. \$161-18.50; 8450-8550 lb. \$162-17.50; 8550-8650 lb. \$163-16.50; 8650-8750 lb. \$164-15.50; 8750-8850 lb. \$165-14.50; 8850-8950 lb. \$166-13.50; 8950-9050 lb. \$167-12.50; 9050-9150 lb. \$168-11.50; 9150-9250 lb. \$169-10.50; 9250-9350 lb. \$170-9.50; 9350-9450 lb. \$171-8.50; 9450-9550 lb. \$172-7.50; 9550-9650 lb. \$173-6.50; 9650-9750 lb. \$174-5.50; 9750-9850 lb. \$175-4.50; 9850-9950 lb. \$176-3.50; 9950-10050 lb. \$177-2.50; 10050-10150 lb. \$178-1.50; 10150-10250 lb. \$179-0.50; 10250-10350 lb. \$180-0.50; 10350-10450 lb. \$181-0.50; 10450-10550 lb. \$182-0.50; 10550-10650 lb. \$183-0.50; 10650-10750 lb. \$184-0.50; 10750-10850 lb. \$185-0.50; 10850-10950 lb. \$186-0.50; 10950-11050 lb. \$187-0.50; 11050-11150 lb. \$188-0.50; 11150-11250 lb. \$189-0.50; 11250-11350 lb. \$190-0.50; 11350-11450 lb. \$191-0.50; 11450-11550 lb. \$192-0.50; 11550-11650 lb. \$193-0.50; 11650-11750 lb. \$194-0.50; 11750-11850 lb. \$195-0.50; 11850-11950 lb. \$196-0.50; 11950-12050 lb. \$197-0.50; 12050-12150 lb. \$198-0.50; 12150-12250 lb. \$199-0.50; 12250-12350 lb. \$200-0.50; 12350-12450 lb. \$201-0.50; 12450-12550 lb. \$202-0.50; 12550-12650 lb. \$203-0.50; 12650-12750 lb. \$204-0.50; 12750-12850 lb. \$205-0.50; 12850-12950 lb. \$206-0.50; 12950-13050 lb. \$207-0.50; 13050-13150 lb. \$208-0.50; 13150-13250 lb. \$209-0.50; 13250-13350 lb. \$210-0.50; 13350-13450 lb. \$211-0.50; 13450-13550 lb. \$212-0.50; 13550-13650 lb. \$213-0.50; 13650-13750 lb. \$214-0.50; 13750-13850 lb. \$215-0.50; 13850-13950 lb. \$216-0.50; 13950-14050 lb. \$217-0.50; 14050-14150 lb. \$218-0.50; 14150-14250 lb. \$219-0.50; 14250-14350 lb. \$220-0.50; 14350-14450 lb. \$221-0.50; 14450-14550 lb. \$222-0.50; 14550-14650 lb. \$223-0.50; 14650-14750 lb. \$224-0.50; 14750-14850 lb. \$225-0.50; 14850-14950 lb. \$226-0.50; 14950-15050 lb. \$227-0.50; 15050-15150 lb. \$228-0.50; 15150-15250 lb. \$229-0.50; 15250-15350 lb. \$230-0.50; 15350-15450 lb. \$231-0.50; 15450-15550 lb. \$232-0.50; 15550-15650 lb. \$233-0.50; 15650-15750 lb. \$234-0.50; 15750-15850 lb. \$235-0.50; 15850-15950 lb. \$236-0.50; 15950-16050 lb. \$237-0.50; 16050-16150 lb. \$238-0.50; 16150-16250 lb. \$239-0.50; 16250-16350 lb. \$240-0.50; 16350-16450 lb. \$241-0.50; 16450-16550 lb. \$242-0.50; 16550-16650 lb. \$243-0.50; 16650-16750 lb. \$244-0.50; 16750-16850 lb. \$245-0.50; 16850-16950 lb. \$246-0.50; 16950-17050 lb. \$247-0.50; 17050-17150 lb. \$248-0.50; 17150-17250 lb. \$249-0.50; 17250-17350 lb. \$250-0.50; 17350-17450 lb. \$251-0.50; 17450-17550 lb. \$252-0.50; 17550-17650 lb. \$253-0.50; 17650-17750 lb. \$254-0.50; 17750-17850 lb. \$255-0.50; 17850-17950 lb. \$256-0.50; 17950-18050 lb. \$257-0.50; 18050-18150 lb. \$258-0.50; 18150-18250 lb. \$259-0.50; 18250-18350 lb. \$260-0.50; 18350-18450 lb. \$261-0.50; 18450-18550 lb. \$262-0.50; 18550-18650 lb. \$263-0.50; 18650-18750 lb. \$264-0.50; 18750-18850 lb. \$265-0.50; 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